Notice of Allowance date 4/01/2009

Appl. No. 10/773,559 Amdt. dated 04/14/2009

Attorney Docket No. 1217-040223

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Developing Agent for Electrophotography

Appl. No.

10/773,559

Confirmation No. 3556

Applicants

Hiromichi KOBAYASHI et al.

Filed

February 6, 2004

Title

Carrier Core Material, Coated Carrier, and Two-Component

Art Unit

1795

Examiner

Hoa Van Le

Customer No.

28289

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.312(a)

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically submitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date set forth below. Diane Paull (Name of Person Mailing Paper) 04/14/2009 Date

-1-

Notice of Allowance date 1/01/2009

Appl. No. 10/773,559 Amdt. dated 04/14/2009 Attorney Docket No. 1217-040223

(Previously Presented) The coated carrier as claimed in claim 17, wherein the metal oxide (MO) is at least one metal oxide selected from the group consisting of FeO, MnO, MgO, CaO, Li₂O and SrO.

Claims 20-39 (Canceled)

(Previously Presented) The coated carrier as claimed in claim 17, wherein the weight ratio ((M^LO)/(M^HO)) of the metal oxide (M^LO) to the metal oxide (M^HO) contained in the carrier core material for forming the coated carrier is in the range of 0.01 to 50.

Wherein the total content ((M^LO)+(M^HO)) by weight of the metal oxide (M^LO) and the metal oxide (M^HO) in the carrier core material for forming the coated carrier is in the range of 0.02 to 24% by weight.

42. (Previously Presented) The coated carrier as claimed in claim 17, wherein the metal oxide (M^HO) is contained inside the particle of the carrier core material for forming the coated carrier in a concentration higher than that in the vicinity of the surface of the particle thereof.

(Previously Presented) The coated carrier as claimed in claim 47, wherein the melting point of the metal oxide (M^LO) is in the range of 550 to 900°C and the melting point of the metal oxide (M^HO) is in the range of 1800 to 3500°C.

(Previously Presented) The coated carrier as claimed in claim 17, wherein the carrier core material is coated with 0.01 to 10 parts by weight of a resin based on 100 parts by weight of the carrier core material.

(Previously Presented) The coated carrier as claimed in claim 47, having an average particle diameter of 15 to 70 μm.